

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA

TO USINFO WASHDC

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AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

UNCLAS SOFIA 1349

BELGRADE FOR HOFFMAN AND GRABELL

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: CSCE BELGRADE CONFERENCE

1. REPORTING OF CSCE CONFERENCE BY BULGARIA MEDIA
HAS BEEN MODERATE AND MOSTLY FACTUAL. MOST SUBSTANTIAL

PIECE, FILED JUNE 20 FROM BELGRADE, APPEARED IN PARTY
ORGAN "RABOTNICHESKO DELO" (RD), JUNE 21, P. 5. TITLED
"COURSE IS OUTLINED BY FINAL ACT," ARTICLE WAS WRITTEN
BY NENCHO KHRANOV, RD'S CHIEF INTERNATIONAL EDITOR.
OTHER DAILIES CARRIED BRIEF BULGARIAN TELEGRAPH AGENCY
PIECE BY SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT G. GOTEV, WITH SHORT
QUOTATION ATTRIBUTED TO BULGARIAN REPRESENTATIVE.

2. IN RD KHRANOV WROTE THAT BEGINNING AT BELGRADE
IS "REASSURING." REGARDING SOVIET PROPOSAL, HE SAID:
"...AMBASSADOR STEFAN STAYKOV...HAS ASSESSED
SOVIET PROPOSAL AS NATURAL AND LOGICAL, AND HAS
JOINED THOSE DELEGATIONS WHICH HAVE ALREADY SUPPORTED
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IT... PROPOSED TEXT IS BASED STRICTLY ON AND LITERALLY
REPEATS FINAL ACT DECLARATION, WHICH DEFINES CHARACTER
AND GOALS OF MAIN MEETING. THUS, IT IS ACCEPTABLE
TO ALL DELEGATIONS SINCE UNDER IT ARE SIGNATURES OF
LEADERS OF THEIR STATES AND GOVERNMENTS. THIS TEXT,
AS POINTED OUT BY SOVIET REPRESENTATIVE, IS UNCONDIT-
IONALLY IN INTEREST OF ALL PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES."

3. ACCORDING TO KHRANOV, BULGARIAN DELEGATION ARGUES THAT SOVIET PROPOSAL "PROVIDES BEST OPPORTUNITY FOR FREE AND DEMOCRATIC EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON ENTIRE COMPLEX OF ISSUES RECORDED IN FINAL ACT. EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON THIS TEXT GUARANTEES BALANCED AND HARMONIOUS DISCUSSION OF ALL ELEMENTS."

4. ON OTHER HAND, KHRANOV ARGUED, "...ANGLO-AMERICAN PROPOSAL HAS RAISED NUMBER OF OBJECTIONS SIMPLY BECAUSE OF ITS ATTEMPT TO DIVIDE AGENDA INTO TWO ITEMS -- ONE ON WHAT HAS BEEN DONE FOR REALIZATION OF FINAL ACT OF HELSINKI, AND OTHER ON DEVELOPMENT OF RELATIONS IN THE FUTURE. IN OPINION OF SOME SPECIALISTS, THIS WOULD PROVIDE OPPORTUNITY FOR DIFFERENT INTERPRETATIONS OF AND PLACING EMPHASIS ON ARBITRARILY SELECTED ISSUES, WHICH WOULD OVERSTEP BOUNDS OF GOALS SET BY FINAL ACT FOR MAIN MEETING."

5. KHRANOV CONCLUDED: "IT IS EVIDENT THAT ONLY BY STICKING RIGIDLY TO SPIRIT AND TEXT OF FINAL ACT OF HELSINKI, THE 35 DELEGATIONS ... WILL BE ABLE TO CONTRIBUTE TO FALL MAIN MEETING A DEEPENING OF DETENTE AND STRENGTHENING OF EUROPEAN SECURITY AND COOPERATION. ONLY IN THIS WAY BELGRADE MEETING

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CAN BECOME A NATURAL CONTINUATION AND PROMOTION OF SPIRIT OF HELSINKI, A NEW LINK IN PROCESS OF EASING TENSIONS, AN ACTION OF COOPERATION AND NOT OF DISSENSION."

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